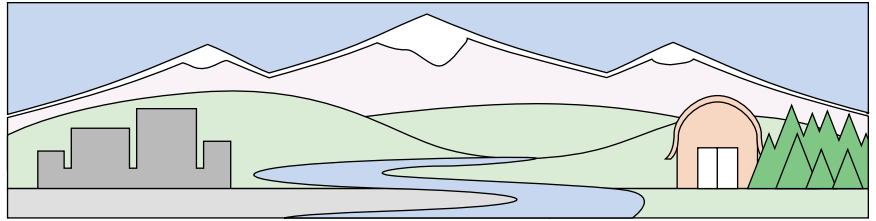


OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS & COMMUNITIES



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Office of Ecosystems and Communities (Elbert Moore, Director, 206-553-4181)

Our Vision: To protect and restore the environment for naturally functioning ecosystems and healthy human communities.

The Office of Ecosystems and Communities leads Region 10 in implementing a strategy to identify, develop, and support ecosystem, geographic and community-based initiatives to protect high quality ecosystems and to reduce environmental and human health impacts from agriculture, forestry, energy, transportation, and development. We manage an annual grants and contracts budget of 65 million dollars.

Partnerships with states and tribes, and other federal agencies, ensure that the Region has a true geographic problem solving focus. We have oversight responsibility and provide technical assistance to state and tribal nonpoint source management and pesticide programs. We work with the Corps of Engineers in managing the wetlands and sediment programs. When necessary, we can use wetlands and pesticide enforcement authorities to ensure compliance. Community involvement is an essential element of the office, and staff located in the four state capitals and nine other communities ensure that we know how our work affects people in the “real world.”

A key focus area is protecting and restoring habitat for salmon, and five of the seven goals of our strategic plan directly support salmon recovery. Much of our grant money is directed at this issue, including funds for wetlands and nonpoint source management, regional geographic initiatives, forest planning, and state revolving loan funds. Our staff work in these areas, along with our decisions on sediment management and pesticide use, and our review of environmental impact statements, all play a major role in salmon habitat protection and recovery.

Our Goals

- Lead EPA Region 10 in collaborating internally and in building partnerships with tribes, the public, and other agencies to solve environmental problems.
- Focus resources in geographic areas where EPA participation will greatly enhance local environmental protection efforts.
- Address environmental issues through cross program, integrated environmental protection.
- Invest in capacity building with federal, tribal, state, and local governments to implement community-based environmental protection and support their environmental efforts.
- Build the Region’s ability to provide timely, high quality community involvement.
- Use enforcement and compliance assistance to reduce wetland destruction and illegal pesticide use.
- Create a work environment that maximizes staff satisfaction and productivity.

What We’re Doing to Achieve our Goals

- Directing staff time and grant resources to the protection and restoration of habitat for aquatic species, especially endangered salmon and bull trout
- Leading major geographic initiatives, including development of a water quality management plan, or total maximum daily load for temperature, in the main stem of the Columbia River